

REMARKS

This responds to the Notice mailed on March 11, 2004, the shortened statutory period of time for filing a response being set to expire on April 11, 2004. Claims 1-12 are currently pending in the application, and claim 13-15 have been canceled.

The Examiner issued the Notice indicating that the claim amendments submitted on February 24, 2004, were not provided with the proper status identifiers. In response to the Notice, Applicants corrected the status identifiers for claims 2,3,4,6,7,8,10,11 and 12, to now recite that each of the aforementioned claims is "currently amended." The status indicators for the remainder of the claims are correct as previously filed, and have not been changed. Applicants assert that no other changes to the claims have been made, and that no new matter has been added.

Applicants have also submitted a new Application Data Sheet setting forth a new mailing address for each of the named inventors.

Accordingly, as it is believed that the all claims are in proper form for examination, favorable reconsideration and allowance of the claims, as set forth in the Remarks in the Amendment filed on February 24, 2004, is earnestly solicited. If, however, for any reason the Examiner does not believe that such action can be taken at this time, it is respectfully requested that he telephone Applicants' attorney at (908) 654-5000 in order to overcome any additional objections which he might have.

If there are any additional charges in connection with this requested amendment, the Examiner is authorized to charge Deposit Account No. 12-1095 therefor.

Dated: April 6, 2004

Respectfully submitted,

By April M. Mayo

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